

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of automated event polling in a network comprising:
logging data into a database on a server;
receiving a request for the data generated by a client using a Hypertext
- 5 Transfer Protocol (HTTP) message;
responding to the request by reformatting the data into an Extensible
Markup Language (XML) format; and
transmitting the data in XML format to the client.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the data in XML format is transmitted by
- 10 a web server to a client interface, wherein the client interface generates the request
for the data which is received by the web server.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the data is reformatted to XML format by
a data interface, and wherein the data interface retrieves the data from the
database.
- 15 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the data interface is implemented as at
least one of Common Gateway Interface (CGI), Java Servlet, and Microsoft
Internet Server Application Programming Interface (ISAPI)
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the data is logged into the database by an
information source.
- 20 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the information source comprises:
an alarm generator; and
a configuration graphical user interface.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving the transmitted response by the client; and
parsing the data in XML format to obtain at least one element included in
the data.
- 5 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the data includes a sequence number.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the data includes a creation time-stamp of
the database.
10. A method of event polling in a network on a client comprising:
generating a HTTP request for data from a database on a server;
receiving a response to the request in XML format; and
converting the data in XML format to a format used by client software.
- 10 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising:
storing a sequence number from the data to a client database; and
requesting data that corresponds to a next sequence number from the
15 database on the server in a next HTTP request.
12. The method of claim 11, further comprising:
synchronizing the client when a received database creation time stamp does
not equal a stored database creation time stamp stored in a client database or when
20 the client database has not been initialized.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein synchronizing the client comprises:
initializing the client database if necessary; and

comparing the server database creation time-stamp to a creation time-stamp stored in the client database, wherein the sequence number is set to zero and the creation time-stamp stored in the client database is set to the server database creation time-stamp, if the time-stamps are not equal.

- 5 14. The method of claim 10, wherein converting the data comprises:
parsing the data in XML format to obtain at least one element contained in
the data.
15. A system for automated event polling in a network comprising:
a computer-based server comprising:
10 logic that receives a HTTP request for data from a database
on the server;
 logic that responds to the request by reformatting the data
into an XML format; and
 logic that transmits the data in XML format; and
15 a computer-based client comprising:
 logic that generates the HTTP request for the data from the
database on the server;
 logic that receives the data transmitted from the server in
XML format; and
20 logic that converts the data in XML format to a format used
by client software.
16. The system of claim 15, wherein the computer-based client further
comprises:
logic that stores a sequence number from the data to a client database; and

logic that requests data that corresponds to a next sequence number from the database on the server a next in HTTP request.

17. The system of claim 15, wherein the computer-based client further
5 comprises:

logic that synchronizes the client when a received database creation time stamp does not equal a stored database creation time stamp stored in a client database or when the client database has not been initialized.

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the logic that synchronizes the client
10 comprises:

logic that initializes the client database if necessary; and

logic that compares the creation time-stamps, wherein the sequence number is set to zero and the creation time-stamp stored in the client database is set to the server database creation time-stamp, if the time-stamps are not equal.

- 15 19. The system of claim 15, further comprising:
an information source that logs the data to the database on the server.
20. The system of claim 19, wherein the information source comprises:
an alarm generator; and
a configuration graphical user interface.